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## CNS0501--Naval Station Newport Selects 2000 Junior Officer of the Year

By NAVSTA Newport Public Affairs

Lieutenant Patrick S. Martin of the Naval Education and Training Center (NETC) was recently selected as the 2000 Junior Officer of the Year for the Newport naval complex. Martin will be honored later this year at a reception co-sponsored by the Newport County Navy League and a Newport area service club.

A native of Eden, N.C., Martin graduated from the United States Naval Academy in 1994.

Martin reported to NETC in 1998 and assumed the duties as Lead Instructor for the Officer Instructor Training School. He has also served as a company officer for the Broadened Opportunity for Officer Selection and Training program and the Officer Indoctrination School and the NETC Public Affairs Officer. Martin is a certified Master Training Specialist; president, secretary, and co-founder of the NETC Officers' Association; and a Naval Leadership facilitator.

Martin attended Flight School in Pensacola, Fla., in 1995, and received his flight wings in 1997. He then transferred to MH-53E Fleet Replacement Squadron at MCAS New River, N.C., where he served as an assistant administrative officer before moving to Norfolk, Va.

In 1997, Martin began his first operational tour in Corpus Christi, Texas, where he served as the Operations Flight and Schedules, Navigation, Customs and Aircrew Survival Training Officer. Martin then served as a flag lieutenant and aide to the Commander, Mine Warfare Command.

Lieutenant Martin was cited for his exemplary tact, diplomacy, core values, and professionalism as a model representative of the Navy. He was also recognized for his contributions within the civilian community. He has volunteered over 900 hours as an assistant football coach and midshipman candidate sponsor for the Naval Academy Preparatory School, tutor and mentor for Gaudet Middle School, board member of the Portsmouth United Methodist Church, and a Friendly Visitor to the homebound elderly for Child and Family Services of Newport. Martin is currently attending the University of Rhode Island, where he will receive a masters degree in adult education in May 2001.

His personal awards include a Navy Achievement Medal, a Master Training Specialist qualification, and letters of commendation/appreciation.

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## CNS0502--Senior enlisted leaders mentor recruit divisions

By JOC Rhonda Burke, NTC public affairs

Two recruit divisions currently in training at Recruit Training Command (RTC) Great Lakes are being linked to the fleet through an innovative process that has master chief petty officers mentoring recruits throughout basic training.

The Navy Personnel Command and Commander, Naval Surface Force, Atlantic (COMNAVSURFLANT) have adopted Divisions 113 and 114, respectively.

"Sponsoring a division gives the opportunity for field groups to interface with recruits and serves as a great motivational tool," said Force Master Chief(SW/AW) Bill Slingerland of COMNAVSURFLANT. "It also gives us a great opportunity to put our money where our mouth is in terms of mentorship."

Slingerland believes the program augments the training received in boot camp and gives the fleet an opportunity to offer feedback and guidance to recruit division commanders (RDCs) and recruits.

"I think the fleet master chiefs need to see the 'Sailorization' process and understand what the needs of these young people are. It will help them to manage these new Sailors when they get to the fleet," Slingerland said.

Under the sponsorship program, master chief petty officers from the sponsoring command are aboard for key events during the division's training cycle including commissioning of the division, physical training, Captain's Cup Olympics, barracks and personnel inspections, battle stations and pass in review. Additionally, the master chiefs and RDCs communicate via e-mail at least once a week.

"I think it is a really beneficial program because we have the opportunity to learn from the experiences the master chiefs have had in the fleet," said BM1(SW) Willie Robinson, recruit division commander for Division 114. "It really adds to the motivation when the master chiefs sit with the recruits at meals and have open conversations with them."

Chief Yeoman(SW) Beverly Caires has pushed a number of recruit divisions. She says the biggest difference in the sponsored division is that recruits are more familiar with Navy rank structure and less intimidated to talk to leaders outside the division.

"A lot of Sailors join the Navy to go to college or learn a trade, now I'm hearing these recruits early on in the training process saying, 'I can do all that and be a master chief petty officer.' They are setting their goal to emulate the master chiefs they have met," Caires said.

Caires says the interaction with senior leadership also helps familiarize the recruits with their ultimate job in the fleet.

"They really understand what they are working toward," Caires explained. She believes the process is giving the fleet a better understanding of the product that Recruit Training is sending them and gives them a chance for feedback on the training process.

For CMDMC(SW) Steve Ketchum of Regional Support Group, Norfolk, the experience has been eye opening.

"There is a lot of grumbling out in the fleet that boot camp isn't what it was 25 years ago; it's not, it is far superior to what I experienced," Ketchum said. "The basics are still here but the manner in which they are taught is far superior."

Ketchum said that is one of the messages the master chiefs are sharing along the waterfront.

Slingerland says he hopes fleet Sailors will benefit from the mentorship program by gaining understanding of the current training at boot camp and providing feedback to the RTC chain of command. He also hopes it will encourage more fleet Sailors to consider assignment to Great Lakes as a recruit division commander.

"Being an RDC is one of the most challenging and rewarding assignments in the Navy," Slingerland said. "RDCs have a great influence on the quality of Sailors going to the fleet and on making the Navy of the future better."

The two divisions are scheduled to graduate March 16.  
More information about recruit training can be found at  
<http://www.ntcgl.navy.mil/>.

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CNS0503--Naval Station Ingleside Cuts Ribbon on BQ Phase IV Construction  
By Fifi Kieschnick

A ribbon-cutting ceremony for Bachelor Quarters (BQ) Phase IV was recently held onboard Naval Station Ingleside. Chief of Naval Air Training Rear Adm. John E. Boyington Jr., was the guest speaker.

Marshall Construction Company of Corpus Christi began construction of the \$9.5 million project in September 1999. Phase IV emphasizes the U.S. Navy's continued commitment to the quality of life for its Sailors. Phase IV includes 10 buildings with 200 rooms that will accommodate E-1 through E-6 Sailors. Each unit includes two living areas and a shared space consisting of a kitchenette and bathroom. The 10 buildings are in a "garden style" layout. An eleventh building is a laundry facility.

BQ Phases I, II and III houses 554 Sailors in 416 rooms. Opening these additional 200 rooms allows all Sailors living aboard NAVSTA to have their own living space. Sailors will begin moving into the new barracks Feb. 5.

This is the last planned phase of barracks aboard NAVSTA. Naval Station Ingleside is the homeport of 21 mine warfare ships -- the mine countermeasures command, control and support ship, USS Inchon (MCS 12); 10 Avenger-class mine countermeasures ships; and 10 Osprey-class coastal mine hunters.

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CNS0504-- CNET Visits NCTC Detachment Sheppard Air Force Base, Texas

By UT1 (SCW) Jody Markham

Chief of Naval Education and Training Vice Adm. John W. Craine Jr., CNET Enlisted Training Education Division Director Capt. Vince Lynch, and CNET Force Master Chief BMCM Greg Pratt, recently visited Naval Construction Training Center Detachment Sheppard AFB, Texas.

Craine and his staff toured the Mechanical and Electrical flights as well as the Digital Switching and Fiber Optics course, getting a first hand look at the training being provided to all students who attend "A" and "C" school.

Craine was very pleased with the standard of cooperation set by the detachment between the tri-Services. He was also impressed by the conditions of the facilities visited and with the professionalism displayed by the staff.

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## CNS0505--Man of Honor: Master Diver Brashear Shares Inspirational Story with Great Lakes Sailors

By JOC Rhonda Burke, NTC Public Affairs Office

"Ain't nobody going to steal my dream."

Those are the words of inspiration Master Diver Carl Brashear imparted to Sailors and visitors during two recent presentations at the Naval Training Center.

The Navy's first African-American Master Diver and the first amputee to be restored to full active-duty and qualified as a deep sea diver, Brashear told his moving story to crowds totaling more than 2,000 people. His life was the subject of the Fox Studios November 2000 release, "Men of Honor," starring Cuba Gooding, Jr. Since the movie was released, Brashear, who retired from the Navy in 1979, has been enjoying a renewed fame and is currently a highly sought after public speaker.

"I really love talking to Sailors," he said. "It was a great Navy then and it's a great Navy now."

Brashear credits his father, a Kentucky sharecropper, for being a role model who exemplified a can-do spirit and lived the creed, "never give up."

"My father was a go getter," Brashear said. "He was the only role model I ever had . . . I believe role models should come from the home." Brashear attended boot camp at Great Lakes just prior to President Harry Truman's desegregation of the armed services.

"At the time I entered the Navy most blacks were stewards. I knew if I wanted to go farther I would need to further and better my education," said Brashear, who entered the Navy with a seventh-grade education received in a segregated one-room schoolhouse in rural Kentucky. Brashear said he always saw the Navy as an opportunity to advance and reach his goals, even when set backs occurred.

After two years as a steward, Brashear became a rescue swimmer and in 1953, after several of his special request chits were lost, he attended diving school and was designated as a salvage diver.

Among the highlights of his career include serving as the Naval escort for President Dwight D. Eisenhower for six months in 1957 where he was dubbed "Mr. Navy" by his co-workers. He and his team also dove on the USS Arizona, prior to the construction of the monument.

Brashear says his greatest accomplishment is being restored to duty as a deep-sea diver following the amputation of the lower portion of his left leg in 1966. The leg was severely damaged as the result of an accident aboard the USS Hoist (ARS-40), during the recovery of a nuclear bomb in the Mediterranean.

"I took on the Navy and won," Brashear said. "But, if I had been the doctors and officers making the decision as to whether or not a man with one leg could be a deep sea diver, I would have agreed with them, that it couldn't be done."

Following his return to full-duty in 1968, he obtained the certification of Master Diver in 1970 and was promoted to Master Chief in 1971, realizing the goals he had set for himself early on in his career. Brashear served as command master chief on the USS Recovery (ARS-43) from 1971-75 and again from 1977-78. He was one of 12 semi-finalists for the position of Master Chief Petty Officer of the Navy in 1976.

"I don't know that I have ever met a Sailor more dedicated to his country and his Navy than Master Diver Brashear," said CNOMC Duffy Merrill, command master chief of the Naval Training Center, who escorted him during his three-day visit.

"You can't place a monetary value on my Navy career," Brashear told the Sailors he spoke with. "I would do it all again."

Brashear encouraged Sailors to share their differences and learn to communicate with one another.

"Every Sailor is unique in my book," Brashear said.

The retired master chief received several standing ovations from the crowd during both his presentations and signed countless autographs for Sailors and members of the public both Sunday and Monday. He was the keynote speaker for the Lake County Forest Preserve's Profiles in Excellence Program. The annual program showcases a member of the African-American community in celebrating of Black History Month. The program was held on the base.

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## CNS0506--FTC Norfolk Cuts Ribbon on Internet Resource Center

By FTC Norfolk Public Affairs

The Fleet Training Center, Norfolk recently cut the ribbon at their Internet Resource Center "Homeport" located in Groshong Hall Bachelor Enlisted Quarters (BEQ), Naval Base Norfolk. Groshong Hall is considered "Home" to many enlisted sailors at Norfolk Naval Base. So in an effort to enhance Quality of Life for its sailors, Ms. Vesper, department head of the Information Systems Office and her staff designed and implemented a wireless connection from Groshong Hall to the Command Local Area Network.

Capt. Fred S. Bertsch III, commanding officer, FTC Norfolk said "It proves what you can do when you are willing to work and come together as a group effort. It was something that was not pressed upon you, but you took it upon yourself to make this come together."

This initiative was accomplished with the cooperation and assistance of Lieutenant Kemp, billeting officer, Sewells Point Combined Bachelor Housing Officer, and a gift of eight obsolete computers from Commander, Navy Region Mid-Atlantic Information Resource Management Office. The furniture was acquired from Defense Reutilization Management Office, (DRMO) and along with a lot of sweat equity, the "HOMEPORT" is now available for FTC residents to use for educational purposes.

This Internet Resource Center links to the command INTRANET which houses STEP CD's and an Internet link to NETg URL, both Chief of Naval Education and Training sponsored educational initiatives providing residents access to professional development materials in addition to their assigned school. Internet access is also available for additional exploration and e-mail which allows the students immediate access to their commands, families and loved ones. Currently averaging 25 to 30 users daily, utilization of this room has now surpassed 500 and is steadily growing.

It took a lot of personal commitment and energy to complete this project. The efforts and "CAN DO" attitude of "Sailors helping Sailors" made this possible.

Total cost for this initiative was less than \$1000. Total benefit to the Sailors who use it; how does one put a price tag on improved quality of life and morale?

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## CNS0507--CNET Stands Up Education Programs Division

By CNET Public Affairs

The Chief of Naval Education and Training (CNET) has stood up a new office that will consolidate and provide oversight for all Navy voluntary education (Vol Ed) and serve as the focal point for direction and evaluation of Naval Education and Training Command (NAVEDTRACOM) education programs.

The newly established Education Programs Division will be a link between the Chief of Naval Operations' office of the Director of Naval Training and Education (N79), in charge of establishing Vol Ed policies, and the Naval Education and Training Professional Development and Technology Center (NETPDTC), in Saufley Field, Fla., which is responsible for executing Navy-wide Vol Ed programs.

"The Navy strives to field a strong, well-trained, well-educated fighting force. It is important to inform as many Sailors as we can that it's not a matter of choice between joining the Navy or going to college. Sailors can do both," explained Cdr. Brian Looney, head, Education Programs Division. "We will reinforce this message during recruitment, in our schoolhouses during initial accession training, by contacting Sailors through their commands, and through 64 Navy College Offices (NCOs) both home and abroad."

Included under the new umbrella are programs such as the Navy College Program (NCP), Navy College Program for Afloat College Education (NCPACE), Tuition Assistance (TA), the United Services Military Apprenticeship Program (USMAP) and several graduate education programs. Through NCOs, the Navy College Center (NCCs), and the web, military members can explore higher education options, including completing an undergraduate or graduate degree, or preparing for college entrance examinations.

Much of the professional training available to Sailors and Marines through Navy training commands is college accredited. The Education Programs staff works closely with both the Enlisted Training and Education and Officer Training and Education offices at CNET to track course accreditation and ensure curriculum changes are taken into account. The new division will also work with the American Council on Education (ACE) to have more Navy training curricula evaluated for college credit.

In December 2000, 16 colleges and universities partnered with the Navy to provide college degrees corresponding to a Sailor's rating or job specialty. Colleges and universities partnering with the Navy include Florida State University, University of Maryland University College, and Old Dominion University.

"Each school has developed a degree program tailor made for the Navy rating training, taking into consideration their formal military technical training and their on-the-job experience," said Don Phillips, deputy head of the new division. "These degree programs are even available through distance learning."

The Education Programs Division will continue to develop these new relationships with the colleges and universities, insuring the programs support the educational needs of the Sailors serving around the world.

Word is quickly spreading about NCP. In fiscal 2000, the NCC at NETPDTC had more than 57,000 calls to their customer service center. The center's web site registered more than 634,000 visits and received more than 478,000 requests for their Sailor/Marine ACE Registry Transcript (SMART).

"This is an important first step," explained Phillips, "We encourage everyone to find out how much college credit they have already earned in their Naval career. "Visit the website, call us at 877-253-7122 or DSN 922-1828, e-mail us at [ncc@cnet.navy.mil](mailto:ncc@cnet.navy.mil), or visit your nearest Navy College Office to see how you can realize your college education goals."

In 1994, the first two Navy College Learning Centers (NLCs) were opened at the Little Creek Amphibious Base in Little Creek, Va., and the Naval Air Station, Jacksonville, Fla., both in major fleet concentration areas.

"The initiative proved very successful," explained Looney. "Today, there are 27 Navy College Learning Centers around the world, providing academic foundation studies in communications, mathematics (including calculus), science, social studies, and life skills, to active duty Sailors and Marines and their adult family members ashore. These foundation studies help prepare them to take college admission examinations, to retake the Armed Service Vocational Aptitude Battery to qualify for a different career field, and even to prepare for graduate level education opportunities. In fiscal 2000, more than 10,500 people took advantage of the services provided by the learning centers."

According to a recent Center for Naval Analysis study, there is a positive statistical correlation between a Sailor's level of education and their likelihood of reenlisting.

"There is also a link between education and promotion rates," said Looney. "Motivated Sailors seek educational opportunities to enhance promotion chances. This is the focus of the Education Programs Division; to help Sailors succeed in their personal and professional life. It's a win for the them, and a win for the Navy."

For more information about the Education Programs Division and the many educational programs available, visit the Navy College Program website at [www.navycollege.navy.mil](http://www.navycollege.navy.mil)

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## CNS0508--Fleet Retention Team Visit NTC Great Lakes

By JOC Rhonda Burke, NTC Public Affairs Office

Members of the Commander in Chief Pacific Fleet Retention Team are recently visited Naval Training Center, Great Lakes to get a first-hand view of training at boot camp and in "A" Schools and to support the Reverse Sponsorship Initiative, developed by senior leadership at Service School Command, Great Lakes.

The Reverse Sponsorship Program links Sailors in "A" school with their gaining command by having Sailors initiate an e-mail message to their gaining command's command master chief, upon receiving their orders.

"Our particular focus is on the first-term Sailor," said NCCM(SW/SW) Jean Palmero, CincPacFlt Career Counselor. "We know they leave the Navy when their expectations are not met."

The Retention Team members say Sailors often cite command climate over pay and other benefits as a reason for leaving the service.

"The sponsorship program is critical. We know they are pumped up after leaving boot camp and "A" school but when they arrive at their first command, how they are received has a lot to do with how they feel about the Navy long-term," Palmero said. "We need to treat them right from the beginning."

Under the Reverse Sponsorship Initiative, which Service School Commanding Officer Capt. Douglas A. Block, attributes to his chief's mess, the emphasis is on making sure the junior Sailor feels apart of the command team from the time he receives his orders.

"I remember what it was like to report to my first ship as a young enlisted Sailor and it wasn't a good experience," Block said. "You get to a major airport and you have to find your way to the base then the ship, no one is expecting you and you don't know what to expect."

As part of the reverse sponsorship program, Sailors e-mail their gaining commands as part of a homework assignment after receiving their orders. Staff members at Service School Command update the latest fleet information to help students better prepare for their next duty station using fleet web pages.

The command has established an initial e-mail format which students are required to send that includes their name, graduation date, projected arrival date, leave address and phone number, family members and a reply email address. The email is sent to the gaining command's Command Master Chief.

The gaining command is asked to respond with welcome aboard and sponsorship information and to answer Sailors questions about reporting to duty.

"First impressions are lasting," said NCCM(SW/AW) Max Vallejos, Com Nav Surf Pac Force Career Counselor. "We are excited about this initiative and expanding it Navy wide. It is important that these Sailors feel apart of the Navy family throughout their career."

The program, which began in the summer of 2000, has increased from 300 emails per month to more than 7,000 emails in December but leaders are still looking for greater improvements.

"Our biggest obstacle is technology," said NCCM(SW/AW) Ray Blanton, ComNavAir Pac Force Career Counselor. "We need to improve technology so that Navy command email systems interface and to make the process easier to use."

As part of their visit to Great Lakes, the Retention Team met with Information Systems personnel at IT "A" School and from the Career Development Center to talk about integrating technology to make the Reverse Sponsorship Program more user friendly.

"Our job is to travel around the fleet to listen to Sailors and find out what we can do to improve retention," said Lt. Danielle Ryan, CincPacFlt Retention Team Manager.

"Sometimes we lose Sailors when they depart the gates of Naval Training Center, Great Lakes," said Blanton. "They are pumped up and feel apart of a team, then they check onboard their next command and they don't feel that. We lose them right then."

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